Shelters will be available for people who have been instructed to evacuate. Local authorities will tell you when to go to an emergency shelter, where the shelter is located, and the safest route for travel.

- Shelters will be located away from areas with high levels of radiation.
- If you are evacuating to a shelter, the shelter will provide water, food, medicine, and basic sanitary facilities. You should bring any medicines and prescriptions that you are taking, important papers, and a change of clothes. Emergency coordinators will tell you about any other supplies you should bring with you.

When to Evacuate

- Each situation will be different. Emergency officials consider many factors to make sure that it is safe to evacuate. Evacuation decisions will be based on wind speed and direction, the size and extent of the disaster, the radiation levels, and whether or not roads and structures are damaged.
- Emergency officials will tell you when to go to an emergency shelter, where the shelter is located, and the safest route for travel. Act quickly and follow instructions. Each situation will be different, and emergency officials will give you the best information to protect yourself and your loved ones.

- Do not return until you are told it is safe to do so by authorities. Attempting to return before it is safe puts you and your family in danger, and keeps emergency responders from doing their jobs safely.
- Radiation experts and emergency officials will determine the location and amount of radioactive contamination.
  - Responders will take air, soil, food, and water samples in the affected area to find areas with dangerous levels of radiation.
  - Unsafe areas will be closed to non-emergency responders.
  - A cleanup plan will be developed, and will include input from the community, radiation experts, and emergency officials.
  - Emergency officials will provide updates on the cleanup efforts as they become available.

Evacuating with Pets

- Listen for instructions and information on pet evacuation and the location of available pet shelters.
- Pets will not be allowed into any shelter until they have been washed to remove radioactive material.
- If evacuating with a pet, bring a cage, leash, food, medication, and veterinary records, including immunization records.

How will I be notified to Shelter in Place?

Local Media – T.V., radio and news websites
NOAA all hazard radio – commonly called “weather radios”
Email or text notification – sign up at www.nixle.com

This information provided by
St. Louis County OEM/LEPC
If a radiation emergency happens in your area, you should get inside immediately.

No matter where you are, the safest action to take is to: GET INSIDE. STAY INSIDE. STAY TUNED.

- Close and lock all windows and doors.
- Go to the basement or the middle of the building. Radioactive material settles on the outside of buildings; so the best thing to do is stay as far away from the walls and roof of the building as you can.
- If possible, turn off fans, air conditioners, and forced-air heating units that bring air in from the outside. Close fireplace dampers.
- Bring pets inside.
- Stay tuned for updated instructions from emergency response officials.